



Early Learning Coalition of Escambia County

Executive/Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

January 27, 2022 8:30 a.m.

Members Present

Van Mansker
Marcus McBride

Roger Thompson

Mona Jackson

Members Absent

None

Staff

Bruce Watson
Nina Daniels

Vicki Pugh
Fred Perkins

Paula Rollins
Dawn Engel

Public

None

I. Welcome and Introductions

Notification of the Executive Finance Committee Meeting scheduled for January 27, 2022, was sent to the Pensacola News Journal and posted to the Coalition Public Calendar Board on January 4, 2022. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Mansker.

II. Public Comments

None.

III. Consent Agenda

Upon a motion by Ms. Jackson and seconded by Mr. McBride, the Consent Agenda, consisting of the Agenda, Financials for November 2021 and Minutes of November 18, 2021, was approved without objection.

IV. Status Reports

- a. SR/VPK Fiscal Year Benchmark Report, Enrollment/Wait List Status Report, and Contracting Summary Report

1. SR/VPK Fiscal Year Benchmark Report:

The Coalition is over \$1 million under budget in SR. This is due to both insufficient enrollments in the beginning of the year, and recently a slowdown in Wait List pulls because parents cannot find openings to place their children. The reason openings cannot be found is that many facilities are operating at reduced capacity due to a lack of staff to maintain ratio. Both SR and VPK are within statutory ratios for spending, with VPK at 3.43% Admin.

2. Enrollment/Wait List Status Report:



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There are 2,840 children enrolled in the School Readiness Program. The Coalition had slowed pulling from Wait List each week to keep the number of children whose parents cannot find a child care provider to around 30 children. Future pulls will be dependent upon the number of children waiting for a provider, as opposed to funding available to place children in to care. This week SRMT numbers were adjusted to keep enrollments in this category capped to 90 children. This is to ensure that Match expenditures for the year do not exceed the combined County and DEL grants.

3. Contracting and Fraud Summary Report:

There are 83 SR providers and 71 VPK providers. This 3 more SR and 2 more VPK providers than the last meeting of the Committee. There is no fraud to report for this year.

V. Committee Recommendations

- a. None.

VI. Old Business

a. Coalition Relocation Update

The move has been accomplished. The Coalition has returned all the keys to the old suites. Most of the settling in is complete. There are a few electrical issues that the Landlord needs to resolve, but these do not impact operations.

b. DEL CRRSA Phase VI

The payments to providers were completed in December. Community Impact is working on projects to use the parent outreach funding, to include purchasing material to improve the parent resource area on the first floor. The Coalition still needs to submit the application for the Work force Initiatives portion of the funding.

VII. New Business

a. School Readiness Eligibility Policy and Procedures Manual Revision

The DEL requested to Eligibility Manual approved in June 2021 be revised to include provisions of new Rules approved after the Manual was submitted for their review and approval, as well as change references to OEI to DEL. Upon a motion by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. McBride, submitting the Eligibility Manual to the Board was approved without objection.

b. New DEL NOA December 22, 2021

The latest NOA includes an allocation of \$31,705 from the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER II) Funds. This is CRRSA funding specifically allocated to address learning loss due to COVID. These funds are to help VPK providers prepare for the coordinated screening progress monitoring program coming in 22-23. The amount allocated is based on the



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number of VPK classrooms times \$210 per classroom, which is the notional cost of one tablet and associated equipment per class.

c. ARPA Grants

The initial grants for ARPA are coming soon. The Coalition is slated to receive almost \$9 million. Unlike prior CARES and CRRSA grants, this grant will require providers to meet more strenuous qualification criteria and agree to specific use of the funding. The DEL is developing applications that will be embedded in the EFS MOD system.

VIII. Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

Next Meeting: February 42, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. at the Early Learning Coalition Office, 170 West Fairfield Dr., Suite 100/400, Pensacola, Florida 32501